

## MISCELLANEOUS NOTES.

**Guenée's Herminidæ revived.**—I have been studying at odd times recently the basal abdominal and thoracic structures of the Noctuidæ. At present my conclusions are still amorphous in most of the series but a group of the Deltoids stand out strongly in contrast to all the other Noctuidæ, in having the first abdominal spiracle exposed on the edge of the tympanic hood, as noted in my description of the Arctiidæ, etc. (Psyche, 23, 186, 1916), while in all others, including the Hypenid Deltoids it is enclosed within the hood wherever any hood is developed. This Arctioid group is approximately the Herminidæ of Guenée, or the Heliini plus Herminiini of Smith, and may be known as the Herminiinæ. It includes the following genera:

<i>Camptyllochila</i> Steph. ( <i>Epizeuxis</i> auct.),	<i>Tetanolita</i> Grt.,
<i>Pseudaglossa</i> Grt.,	<i>Phalænophana</i> Grt. ( <i>Heterogramma</i> ),
<i>Epizeuxis</i> Hbn. ( <i>Zanclognatha</i> Led.),	<i>Hypenula</i> Grt.,
<i>Hormisa</i> Wlk.,	<i>Lascoria</i> Wlk. ( <i>Gaberasa</i> Wlk.),
<i>Philometra</i> Grt.,	<i>Rejectaria</i> Gn.,
<i>Phalænostola</i> Grt.,	<i>Palthis</i> Hbn.,
<i>Chytolita</i> Grt.,	<i>Dercetis</i> Grt.,
<i>Renia</i> Gn.,	<i>Herminia</i> (Europe),
<i>Bleptina</i> Gn.,	<i>Nodaria</i> (Europe),
	<i>Pechypogon</i> (Europe).

Numerous South American genera evidently also belong here,—all those with modified fore legs and perhaps a few others, like our *Camptyllochila* and *Pseudaglossa*. The following genera are certainly excluded:

<i>Scoliopteryx</i> ,	<i>Rivula</i> ,	<i>Menopsimus</i> ,
<i>Plusiodonta</i> ,	<i>Mycterophora</i> ,	<i>Capis</i> ,
<i>Sylectra</i> ,	<i>Pleonectyptera</i> ,	<i>Salia</i> ,
<i>Hypsoropha</i> ,	<i>Phytometra</i> ( <i>Prothymia</i> ),	<i>Bomolocha</i> ,
<i>Alabama</i> ,	<i>Pangrapta</i> ,	<i>Lomanaltes</i> ,
<i>Anomis</i> ,	<i>Spargaloma</i> ( <i>Hyamia</i> ),	<i>Ancpischetos</i> ,
<i>Scolccocampa</i> ,	<i>Mcclanomma</i> ,	<i>Plathyphena</i> ,

<i>Pseudorgyia</i> ,	<i>Dyspyralis</i> ,	<i>Hypena</i> ,
<i>Gabra (Eucalyptra)</i> ,	<i>Metalectra (Homopyralis)</i> ,	
<i>Parora</i> ,	<i>Hyphenopsis</i> ,	

W. T. M. FORBES.

**Liophloeus tessulatus** Müller.—A specimen of this European insect was received in December, 1917, from New Rochelle, accompanied by the statement that: "In winter it eats the roots (green-houses) and in summer the leaves of *Rhododendron* and *Taxus*." Only one specimen was obtained and the recorded food habits lead us to suspect that most of the damage in this greenhouse may have been caused by the somewhat similar appearing black vine weevil, *Otiorynchus sulcatus* Fabr., another European species which has been received from several New York State localities. Fowler, in his "Coleoptera of the British Islands," 5: 198, states that *Liophloeus* occurs on hedges, young trees, nettles, etc., and may be obtained by beating ivy which seems to be the special food plant.—E. P. FELT.

**Nemobius**.—The name of the genus *Nemobius*, Chapuis 1869 in Scolytidae has been altered to *Nomebnius* by Longinos Navas because *Nemobius* was first used in Orthoptera (Serville, 1839). The alteration appears in Boletín de la Soc. Aragonesa de ciencias nat., XIV, 1915, p. 34, and is liable to be overlooked.—JOHN D. SHERMAN, JR.

**Extract from Letter of Dr. David Sharp re Rhynchophorus palmarum**.—Just now I am giving much attention to Calandridæ. I see that in your nice book you have been unable to give information about *Rhynchophorus palmarum* in North America. I can give information about this and will do so as it involves several points of considerable importance. Upwards of fifty years ago, the late Edwin Brown, G. R. Crotch and myself contributed to sending a young collector, J. R. Hardy, to California to get beetles for our collections; and it fell to me to arrange and name what we received. I could only do this by sending a set to Dr. Leconte, which I did, giving him permission to keep whatever he liked. Among them was a unique specimen of a large black *Rhynchophorus* which he said was *R. palmarum*, but expressed the opinion to me that it was not N. American but had got into the lot by some error.

Enquiry of Hardy showed that it was certainly not an error. He did what at that time was a marvel, viz.: penetrated on foot from San Diego to Fort Yuma, and found this specimen in a grove of palm trees there. Leconte was quite satisfied and so *R. palmarum* was placed in your lists. But is the specimen really *R. palmarum*? I doubt it. I find that *R. palmarum* is a different genus from the Asiatic *Rhynchophorus*, and so far as I can judge from your book (I have no specimens) your *R. cruentatus* agrees with the Asiatic forms, and not with *R. palmarum*. It would be worth while to have the specimen examined as it is probably still extant in the Leconte collection. *R. palmarum* instead of having the pronotum simply curved at the base, is sinuate on each side there, so as to be lobed in the middle, and it has the rostrum extremely coarsely sculptured at the base beneath, while it is smooth in the other species. I may add that I have an idea from your book that *R. cruentatus* may be a different genus from the Asiatic *Rhynchophorus*.—D. SHARP.

**Tandem Dragonflies.**—At one of the smaller ponds close to Long Pond, Wading River, Long Island, N. Y., on July 26, 1917, the writer saw a most unusual sight, namely three dragonflies attached and flying together. The species was the common *Gomphus lividus* Selys (*sordidus* Hagen). First there was a male, which was holding another male just behind him by the prothorax, this male in turn being in copulation with a female of the same species. The three insects were flying together along the margin of the pond and were easily captured. On one occasion on Staten Island we saw a male *Libellula luctuosa* (*basalis*) seize a female *auripennis*, and at another time a male *auripennis* grasp a female *L. semifasciata*, but never before had we witnessed three dragonflies flying tandem.

Long Pond and the nearby Deep Pond are among the best localities for dragonflies on Long Island, and at the time of our visit in June, 1917, we captured at the former such desirable species as *Lestes eurinus*, *Enallagma minusculum*, *Gomphoides obscura*, *Anax longipes*, *Dorocordulia lepida*, *Ladona exusta deplanta*, *Libellula flavida*, *Celithemis monomelana*, while at the latter were taken *Dorocordulia libera* and *Leucorrhinia frigida*. Some of the species mentioned are common in the Pine Barrens of New Jersey, but rare on Long Island.—WM. T. DAVIS.

**Hapithus agitator Uhler.**—Several specimens of this species were collected at Ocean Beach, Fire Island, Long Island, N. Y., August, 1917, by Mr. Henry Thurston. This species is an addition to the known fauna of Long Island and its range has thus been extended northward. A female of this cricket was collected on Staten Island at Tottenville, September 21, 1902.—WM. T. DAVIS.

**Papilio marcellus Cramer.**—A specimen of this species alighted on my office window in the Grand Central Station Building, 42d street, New York City, on the eighth of last July.—C. H. SUNDERLAND.

**The Honey-dew of Aphids very Attractive to Moths and Roaches.**  
—On June 27, 1917, the writer was walking at night along a road near Wading River, Long Island, N. Y., examining the wayside vegetation with an acetylene lantern, when suddenly a small bush was seen to be aflutter with moths. The bush proved to be a species of *Pyrus*, the terminal branches of which were infested by a species of black or blackish aphid. The excrement of these creatures was very attractive to scores of other insects, probably more so than the usual "sugar" bait used by entomologists. In all 45 moths were taken of 24 species, but a number of kinds escaped, and no especial effort was made to collect all of the specimens seen, in fact it would have been impossible, for they were most wary and quickly left the bush. Geometrids and microlepidoptera were present, as well as Noctuids; also roaches of three species, and numerous caddis flies. By visiting the little bush the next evening and approaching more cautiously, some of the species were collected that got away on the first occasion.

The insects identified are as follows: Moths; *Rhynchagrotis rufipectus*, *Noctua plecta*, *Mamestra detracta*, *M. subjuncta*, *M. grandis*, *M. renigra*, *Heliophila multilinea*, *Orthodes crenulata*, *O. cynica*, *Graphiphora oviduca*, *Ogdoconta cincreola*, *Eustrotia carneola*, *Prothymia semipurpurea*, *Tarache crastrionides*, *Pangrapta decoralis*, *Phoberia atomaris*, *Orthofidonia vestaliata*, *Sciagraphia heliothidata*, *Caberodes confusaria*, *Sabulodes lorata* and *Desmia funeralis*. The three roaches are *Parcoblatta fulvescens*, *P. virginica* and *P. uhleriana*. Not only were there many male roaches present, but also a number of females, which in this genus are wingless.—WM. T. DAVIS.

**Anacampsis innocuella.**—In connection with this species and Mr. Davis' note in the June, 1918, number it may be well to record the following observation. In June, 1912, I found large numbers of rolled leaves of *Populus grandidentata*, and a good many of *P. tremuloides*, lying on the ground as described by Mr. Davis, and bred this species from them. In this case they were evidently cut off long before maturity, often very soon after the last molt, and the caterpillar fed for several days on the withered and partially decayed leaves. The localities were Mt. Toby, Sunderland, and the Notch, Mt. Holyoke Range, Mass. I have found it many times since, here at Ithaca and elsewhere.—WM. T. M. FORBES.

**Butterfly Collecting for the Season of 1918.**—Spring collecting was very poor and the season apparently backward. The poor collecting at Greenwood Lake on May 5 has already been reported.

Early summer, *i. e.*, June collecting, was very good and the season was ahead of normal. At Fort Montgomery, N. Y., on June 1, the collecting was excellent, 30 species and 2 varieties being positively identified; there were 2 or 3 additional forms which escaped. Insects of other orders were apparently plentiful.

Summer cottages are being erected and encroach on the collecting territory. Military guards are all through the region: they examine the autos but do not molest the pedestrians.

Several trips to Van Courtlandt Park, New York City, through this month showed good collecting, but there was a decided falling off during the last few days.

From the last days of June to the present time, the collecting has been poor and the season backward, at least during July. On the other hand the vegetation was ahead, golden rod and iron-weed being in bloom two to three weeks earlier than during normal seasons. Perhaps the extremely dry weather during July and August is responsible.

*Eurymus philodice* (Godart), which was quite scarce last season, is with us this year in its normal abundance.

The remarks on the poor collecting seem also to apply to the Heterocera.

Lepidopterous larvæ, so abundant last fall, are relatively scarce now.—FRANK E. WATSON.